White Tiger Safari i„ Zoological Parks

826. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state-r

(a) whether any decision has been taken to provide White Tiger Safari in some Zoological Parks of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether suoh Tigers are to be imported;

(d) if so the name of the country of import;

(©) whether Government proposes to provide such Tigers to Zoological Parks of major metropolitan cities of the coun-. try; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not. the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

India's assessment of warlike situation in the Gulf

827. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the assessment of Government with regard to the prevailing warlike atmosphere in the Gulf; and

(b) whether Government propose to actlvise the third world countries to diffuse the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The situation in the Gulf region is serious and tension is building up as we approach the deadline of January 15, 1991 laid down in UN Security Council Resolution 678 for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. Government are of the view that a war would not be a viable solution to the crisis and are in touch with other countries in this regard.

Environment clearance of Narmada River Project

828. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environment clearance given to SSp of Narmada River Project is being reviewed with a view to halt the semi-finished Sardar Sarovar Project; and

(b) whether the Prime Minister's assurance recently given to environmentalists opposed to Narmada Dams for comprehensive review has affected in any way the environmental Department's processing of the Narmada Project?

TH_E MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar Projects were accorded environmental approval in June, 1987 with the proviso that Environmental Action Plans should be prepared by 1989 for pari-passu implementation with the construction works. Since these plans were not yet ready, it was decided in September, 1990 that the Narmada Control Authority should approach the Ministry of Environment & Forests for a formal extension of time. No request for extension has, however, been received so far.

(b) No, Sir. The projects were considered and approved in 1989.

STD facilities to the Tehsil towns in the country

829. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for providing STD facilities to the Tehsil towns all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor anj the ime by when these facilities are likely tOe provided; and